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24 October 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: C/SR/PP

SUBJECT : Utilization of Existing Contacts with the Religious Order of St. Basil the Great in Warsaw.

1. AECASSOWARY/2 informed us that the Very Reverend Nicholas Kohut, who is the Provincial Superior of the Basilian Fathers in the United States (a native American), plans to make a trip to Warsaw, Poland, to visit with the Basilian Fathers in that city.

2. Father Kohut is well known to AECASSOWARY/2 and is a personal friend of his. The trip to Warsaw will be undertaken by Father Kohut at his own expense, but while in Warsaw he could establish contact on behalf of AECASSOWARY/2 with the Ukrainians residing in Poland.

3. The Ukrainian minority in Poland at the present time is numbered at about 250,000 people and consists of the Ukrainians from the Lemko Region stretching from the Carpathian Mountains almost to the City of Krakow. AECASSOWARY/2 has a number of friends and associates who were formerly connected with the UPA (Ukrainian Partisan Army).

4. The activities of this Ukrainian group in Poland recently were set up because of the liberalization granted the national minorities in recent months. The Polish Government has made a number of concessions in their favor, and in June of this year a congress of Ukrainian delegates numbering 230 representatives took place in Warsaw. The Polish Minister of Education (Jaroshinsky) welcomed the congress in the name of the Polish Government, and as a result of this new policy on the part of the Polish Government, the Ukrainians started the publication of a daily newspaper ("Nashe Slovo").

5. The Ukrainian Congress has left behind a permanent committee located in Warsaw which will take care of the cultural interests of the Ukrainian people, and for whose activities the Polish Government have set aside 15 million Zlotys.

6. The Religious Order of St. Basil the Great is a leading Monastic Order of the Greek-Catholic Church and it has been in existence since 1596. This Order maintains Monasteries in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary, and Yugoslavia, but its best organized branches were in Western Ukraine (Galicia), as well as

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in Poland. The well-known Ukrainian church leader, Archbishop Sheptytsky, Metropolitan of Western Ukraine from 1900 to 1944, was also a member of this Order. In the United States, this Order has Monasteries and Parishes in New York, the Bronx, Glen Cove, L.I., West Islip, N.Y., Binghamton, N.Y., Dawson, Pa., and Chicago, Ill. Its Superior for the United States is the Very Reverend Nicholas Kohut, residing at 22 East 7th St., New York 3, N. Y.

7. Should this proposal for utilization of Father Kohut's trip to Warsaw find approbation, then AECASSOWARY/2 could be instructed to put him in touch with the case officer of the REDSKIN operations in order to brief him, apart from the instruction and direction that will be given to him by AECASSOWARY/2.

8. In case AECASSOWARY/2 will be allowed to carry on his arrangement with Father Kohut without any participation on our side, AECASSOWARY/2 requests permission to authorize Father Kohut to leave a certain amount of money with the Basilian Fathers in Warsaw for the purpose of helping those many needy Ukrainians who were formerly members of UPA and who have been personally associated with AECASSOWARY/2.

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